

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Previously Presented) A vector for *Agrobacterium*-mediated plant transformation comprising:

a T-DNA right border region that is recognized by the *vir* proteins of *Agrobacterium*;

a T-DNA left border region comprising at least two T-DNA left border sequences that is recognized by the *vir* proteins of *Agrobacterium*;

a T-DNA region located between these border regions and into which a nucleotide sequence to be introduced into the plant can be inserted; and

a replication origin that enables replication of said vector in bacteria;

wherein said vector when used in the *Agrobacterium*-mediated plant transformation reduces the integration frequency of a non-T-DNA segment into a plant chromosome, as compared with a vector comprising a T-DNA left border region consisting of a single T-DNA left border sequence.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The vector according to claim 2, wherein ~~either~~ **the** T-DNA region contains a marker comprising a polynucleotide sequence that permits the selection of a plant transformed with the vector.

5. (Previously Presented) The vector according to claim 2, wherein the replication origin permits replication of the vector in a bacterial cell for vector amplification and an *Agrobacterium* host cell.

6. (Previously Presented) A method for transforming a plant cell comprising the steps of: introducing the vector according to any one of claims 2, 4 or 5 into an *Agrobacterium* host cell; and

transforming a plant cell with the *Agrobacterium* host cell harboring the vector, thus obtaining a transformed plant cell.

7. (Original) A plant transformed by the method of claim 6.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) A method for reducing the integration frequency of non-T-DNA segment of a vector for *Agrobacterium*-mediated plant transformation, comprising the steps of:

introducing the vector according to any one of claims 2, 4 or 5 into an *Agrobacterium* host cell; and

transforming a plant cell with the Agrobacterium host cell harboring the vector,
thus obtaining a transformed plant cell, wherein the integration frequency of non-T-DNA segment into the chromosome of the plant cell is reduced as compared to the case when a vector comprising a T-DNA left border region consisting of a single T-DNA left border sequence is used.

10–12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) The vector according to claim 2, wherein the T-DNA left border region comprises at least three T-DNA left border sequences.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) A method for transforming a plant comprising the steps of:
introducing the vector according to any one of claims 2, 4 or 5 into an Agrobacterium host cell;
and
transforming a plant by infecting the plant with the Agrobacterium host cell harboring the vector;
thus obtaining a transformed plant.